

HMLA-469 FAMILY READINESS VISION



The Marine Corps' most valuable resource is its people, the individual Marine along with his or her family. Vengeance is a family, and the success of Vengeance family is directly linked to the well-being and resiliency of each individual Marine and their family.

Family Readiness is the ability of the individual Marine or Sailor and their family to balance the challenges of a military lifestyle with family responsibilities in good times and in crisis. Vengeance Marines and Sailors must ensure their personal and family affairs are in order, so they may remain fully focused on their mission. A focused Marine or Sailor is better able to fight and survive during contingency operations. My wife Mary, my son Charles, and my daughter Julia, will tell you they want all my focus on them, but I have a responsibility to ensure they understand what I must do in order to come home to them safely. As your Commanding Officer, I am responsible to help you do the same. This is the goal of our Family Readiness Program. We will

educate and provide resources, information, training, and access to support services in order to ensure Vengeance family members are **WELCOMED, INFORMED, RESILIENT, and READY**. WE all have multiple families: the family we're born into, the family we're married into, and the family we're sworn into. Ideally, we can unify the efforts throughout all our family affiliations and succeed on all fronts.

Welcomed: Thank you for being part of the Vengeance family. Mary and I look forward to meeting each and every member of the Vengeance family. The wealth of experience you bring to this squadron is so very rich. Mary and I have been married for over 20 years now, and we have been a Marine family for 16 of those years. We understand the many challenges and sacrifices associated with squadron life, and we have learned that being surrounded by your squadron family is often the difference between success and failure. We would love to welcome all of you to actively participate in our Family Readiness Program, so that the next generation of the Vengeance family can benefit from your experiences, and we can benefit from each other's strengths.

Informed: Mrs. Rebecca FellRanshaw serves as the squadron's Family Readiness Officer (FRO). Rebecca is the link between all members of the Vengeance family: Marines, Sailors, spouses, children and beyond. It is my responsibility, and Rebecca's job to ensure Vengeance families-

- (1) Understand the additional responsibilities that fall on family members when their Marine is away.
- (2) Are knowledgeable of and able to utilize information about benefits, entitlements, programs, and services provided through the Department of Defense, the Marine Corps, and the Community.
- (3) Are knowledgeable about the resources this command has available and can bring to bear to assist and contribute to personal and family readiness goals.

Resilient: Marines and Sailors know how much our family members sacrifice in order to support our decision to serve our nation. The military lifestyle is extremely difficult and adds unique stresses to family life. Resilient Marines, Sailors, and families are better able to handle these life stressors. Resilient service members and their families must be both independent and interdependent. They must be educated and able to leverage the support systems available from the Family Readiness Officer, other military families, neighbors, and the community, and this command.

Ready: A ready member of the Vengeance family is better prepared for family separations. They are adaptable and flexible. Ready family members do not have all the answers, but they know where to find them. Participation in Squadron events, L.I.N.K.S., financial management classes, Marine Corps Community Services events, medical and dental health services, and many other Marine Corps Family Programs positively contribute to a ready Vengeance family. Our families are essential to the Vengeance team, and they must have the support they need. Our operational tempo will remain high because we are Marines. We must do everything possible to strengthen all elements of our team. Thank you for your commitment to the Vengeance family! Mary and I look forward to hearing your stories in the months to come.

MARINES – PROFESSIONAL AND READY


LIEUTENANT COLONEL EDWARD W. POWERS

COMMANDING OFFICER, MARINE LIGHT ATTACK HELICOPTER SQUADRON 469

“ATTACK WITH VENGEANCE!”

